

# **HOW TO REGISTER AND VOTE 2010**

A Guide for Voters

# Important Dates

Deadline to Register to Vote in the Primary ..... August 14

Primary ..... September 14

Deadline to Register to Vote on Election Day ..... October 2

Election Day ..... November 2



# State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Office of the Secretary of State

**A. Ralph Mollis**

Secretary of State

Dear Fellow Rhode Islander:

As Secretary of State, I am committed to making it easier to vote. I had the privilege of overseeing Rhode Island's record-breaking election season in 2008. We set new highs in voter registrations as well as turnout in a presidential primary and a general election. I hope this year will be just as historic.

This guidebook includes advice about registering to vote, changing your party affiliation and finding your polling place as well as contact information for the state Board of Elections and the board of canvassers of every city and town.

In keeping with my pledge to use technology to improve Rhode Islanders' access to government, the guide is posted on our website at [www.sos.ri.gov/elections/forms](http://www.sos.ri.gov/elections/forms), where it is available 24/7 and convenient to share with others.

Two other publications from my office may be useful. *Election Calendar 2010* details the specific filing deadlines and requirements for the current election cycle. *How to Run for Office* includes a detailed list of crucial deadlines as well as thorough explanations of the steps those seeking to run for office in Rhode Island must take.

Government belongs to the people. The more they know, the better they will govern. If you need additional information, please contact our Elections Division at 401-222-2340, TTY 711 or [elections@sos.ri.gov](mailto:elections@sos.ri.gov).

Sincerely,

A. Ralph Mollis  
Secretary of State

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# Registering to Vote in Rhode Island

## Why do I need to register to vote?

Election officials must know a few things about you, such as your eligibility to vote and where you live, before you appear to vote at the polls. Your advance voter registration shows poll workers that you are a qualified voter and ensures that you get to vote on all the elections and ballot questions that affect you.

## Who may register to vote in Rhode Island?

You may register to vote if you are:

- › a citizen of the United States,
- › a resident of the Rhode Island city or town where you wish to vote, and
- › at least 16 years of age. You must be at least 18 years of age by Election Day to vote.

\*If you are a convicted felon and not in prison and you are a US citizen at least 18 years of age by Election Day, you may restore your right to vote by notifying your local board of canvassers in writing that you have completed your prison sentence or by submitting a new voter registration form.

## Who may not register to vote?

You may not register to vote if you are:

- › legally declared mentally incapable by a court, or
- › a convicted felon still in prison. Once out of prison, the right to vote is restored by either notifying your local board of canvassers in writing or by submitting a new voter registration form.

## Who can cast a vote in a Rhode Island election?

Any registered voter may vote, so long as he or she has registered to vote at least 30 days prior to the primary or election in which they wish to vote.

## When must I register?

To vote in:	You must register by:
September 14, 2010 Primary	August 14, 2010.
November 2, 2010 Election Day	October 2, 2010.

## Is it possible to register and vote on Election Day?

No. You must be registered to vote at least 30 days prior to the primary or general election.

## Will I ever need to register again?

Registration is permanent and generally does not need to be renewed as long as you live at the same address.

You will need to register again if:

- › You change your name,
- › You change your address within your city or town,
- › You move to another city or town, or
- › You have been removed from the voting list for any reason.

## How do I register or update my registration?

To register to vote, you must complete a voter registration form. That form must be received by an authorized public official of your city or town or the State of Rhode Island.

You may use either the Rhode Island Voter Registration Form or you may use the National Voter Registration Form.

You may register in person or by mail. You may also register with the help of another person who delivers the form to an authorized official for you.

## Where do I register to vote or file a change of address?

You may obtain your registration form and register to vote **in person** at many different places, including offices you might visit to conduct other business. You may register at:

- › The local board of canvassers in your city or town. These offices

are usually open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Some registrars offer registrations at other times and places in the community. See page 24 for your local board of canvassers' address and telephone number.

- › Any office of the Division of Motor Vehicles. You may register to vote when you apply for a driver's license, license renewal or DMV personal identification document.
- › Agencies providing public assistance, such as the Department of Human Services.
- › State-funded programs assisting people with disabilities.
- › Armed forces recruiting offices.

Contact the Board of Elections at 401-222-2345 for a complete list of agencies where you may register or change your address.

### **What information will I need to provide to complete my registration?**

When you register to vote you must give your

- › name,
- › complete address,
- › date of birth, and
- › choice of political party affiliation, if any.

You must also state on the registration form that you:

- › are a U.S. citizen, and
- › are at least 16 years of age. You must be at least 18 years of age by Election Day to vote.

If you are a **first time mail registrant in RI or a first time registrant through a third party**, you must provide your valid RI driver's license number or valid RI ID number issued by the Division of Motor Vehicles. If you do not have a valid RI driver's license or RI ID number, you must provide the last four digits of your social security number. If you do not have a driver's license, RI ID or social security number, or if these numbers cannot be verified, or if you fail to complete this item on the registration form, you will be required to present one of the forms of identification listed on pages 4, 5 and 6 at the time of registration,

prior to voting or at the time of voting.

When you sign the registration, you are taking an oath that you meet these voter qualification requirements. Witnesses are not needed unless you need assistance in filling out the registration form.

### **Can I register by mail?**

Yes. You may mail a completed Rhode Island Voter Registration form or a National Voter Registration form to your local board of canvassers at the address shown on page 24 of this booklet. Federal and state forms are equally acceptable in Rhode Island.

Get RI registration forms at:

- › All local boards of canvassers (see address list on page 24).
- › The Board of Elections, 50 Branch Ave, Providence.
- › The Offices of the Secretary of State located at State House in Room 38, or at 148 W. River St., or at 337 Westminster Street, Providence.
- › Online at: [www.sos.ri.gov/elections](http://www.sos.ri.gov/elections). Follow the link “Forms and Publications.”
- › You can also find the National Voter Registration Form online at: [www.sos.ri.gov/elections](http://www.sos.ri.gov/elections). Follow the link “Forms and Publications.”

### **Will I need any documents to register?**

If you are a first time mail registrant in RI or a first time registrant through a third party, and do not provide a RI driver’s license, RI ID or Social Security Number, you must provide one of the following identifications:

- › A copy of a current and valid photo identification provided by a third party in the ordinary course of business that includes the name and photograph of the individual presenting it. Examples of photo identification include, but are not limited to:
  - Driver’s license or identification card of any state;
  - U.S. Passport;
  - Employee identification card;



- Identification card provided by a commercial establishment;
- Credit or debit card;
- Military identification card;
- Student identification card;
- Health club identification card;
- Insurance plan identification card;
- Public housing identification card;

or a copy of any of the following documents, provided that the document includes the name and current address of the individual presenting it, and is dated since the date of the last general election, unless the document is intended to be of a permanent nature such as a pardon or discharge:

- Utility bill;
- Bank statement;
- Government check;
- Government paycheck;
- Document issued by a government agency;
- Sample ballot or other official elections document issued by a governmental agency, dated for the election in which the individual is providing it as proof of residency or identity;
- Voter notification card issued by a governmental agency;
- Public housing identification card issued by a governmental agency;
- Lease or rental statement or agreement issued by a governmental agency;
- Student identification card issued by a governmental agency;
- Tuition statement or bill issued by a governmental agency;
- Insurance plan card or drug discount card issued by a government agency;
- Discharge certificates, pardons, or other official documents issued to the individual by a governmental agency in

connection with the resolution of a criminal case, indictment, sentence; or other matter;

- Public transportation authority senior citizen and disabled discount cards issued by a governmental agency;
- Identification documents issued by governmental disability agencies;
- Identification documents issued by government homeless shelters and other government temporary or transitional facilities;
- Drug prescription issued by a government doctor or other governmental health care provider;
- Property tax statement issued by a governmental agency;
- Vehicle registration issued by a governmental agency;
- Vehicle certificate of ownership issued by a governmental agency.

Also, you have the option of bringing one of the identifications listed above to the polling place the first time you vote, or mailing a copy of the identification to your local board of canvassers before the first time you vote.

### **How do I know if I am properly registered to vote?**

When you register for the first time or change your address, your local board of canvassers will send you an acknowledgement notice at the address from which you registered. (You will also be notified by mail if your registration does not meet the requirements for any reason.)

If the Post Office cannot deliver the notice to the address you gave when you registered, your name will be placed on the “inactive” list and you may not be able to vote. If you do not receive the acknowledgement notice within three weeks, you should contact your local board of canvassers.

If you are not sure whether you have already registered, you can check with the board of canvassers in your home town, or at the Voter Information Center on the Secretary of State’s website:

[www.sos.ri.gov/vic](http://www.sos.ri.gov/vic)

### **Can I keep my home address secret?**

All the information on a voter registration form is public record except your driver's license number and Social Security Number. However, there is an exception for victims and potential victims of domestic violence and voters who reside with them.

If you have a court-ordered restraining order against another person to prevent domestic violence, you may vote without making your residence address part of a public record. An application and further details of the program can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Secretary of State, Elections Division at 401-222-2340.

### **Are there additional resources describing the voter registration process?**

The Board of Elections has issued rules and regulations for voter registration. Copies may be obtained by calling their office at 401-222-2345 or on our website at [www.sos.ri.gov/archives](http://www.sos.ri.gov/archives).

# Voting at the Polls

## Where do I vote?

Your polling place is determined by your place of residence. Watch your local newspaper for an announcement indicating poll locations and times, or contact your local board of canvassers.

You may also obtain your polling place location on the Secretary of State's website at [www.sos.ri.gov/vic](http://www.sos.ri.gov/vic) or by calling the Secretary of State's Elections Division at 401-222-2340 or TDD 711.

## How do I identify myself at the polling place?

In most cases you don't need to provide proof of identity at the polling place. When you enter your polling place, state your name and address to one of the bi-partisan supervisors seated at the check-in table.

If your name is found on the voting list and your street address matches the voter list, the supervisor will give you a short ballot application. Sign the application.

If you live at a different address from the one shown for you on the voting list, or if you have been listed as "inactive" because mail sent to your listed address has been returned by the Post Office, you will need to fill out and sign an additional affirmation form before voting.

## When is an identification document required?

An identification document will only be needed if you are a first-time mail registrant in RI or a first time registrant through a third party and you have not submitted the required identification by the time of the election. You will be notified in advance by mail that you should bring identification to the polls.

## If I must show identification when I vote, what documents can I show?

The acceptable list of documents can be found on pages 4, 5 and 6 of this guide.

# Provisional Voting

## **What if I know I am registered, but the officials can't find my name on the voter list?**

If you believe you were left off the list or otherwise prevented from regular voting by error, you will be allowed to cast a provisional ballot. First, you complete a provisional ballot application containing a statement that you are registered and eligible to vote. You then complete a ballot, which you seal inside the envelope provided with your provisional ballot. The envelope and your ballot go to election officials who will double-check and determine whether or not you are eligible to vote. If the official determines that you are eligible, your ballot will be counted with all other ballots in your polling place. The secrecy of your vote will be preserved at all times.

## **How will I know if my provisional ballot was counted?**

Your provisional ballot will be assigned a serial number, which will be provided to you before you leave the polling place. After 48 hours following the election, in most cases you will be able to check whether the ballot was counted or not by visiting the Board of Elections website at [www.elections.ri.gov](http://www.elections.ri.gov) or contacting your local board of canvassers.

# How to Cast Your Vote

## How do I get my ballot?

Once your name is checked off on the voting list by the supervisor, you will be directed to the clerk seated at the check-in table. Hand the clerk your ballot application. The clerk will give you the appropriate ballot and a paper cover, called a “secrecy sleeve.” The secrecy sleeve helps ensure the privacy of your election choice.

The clerk will send you to a voting booth where you can mark your ballot in private. There will be a marking pen in the voting booth for your use in marking your ballot.

## What does the ballot look like?

The ballot is a large piece of paper, approximately 9 inches by 17 inches. You will see the names of the offices being elected with the names of the candidates and the party they represent listed underneath. You will see an open arrow like this:



to the right of each candidate's name. In addition to the elected offices and candidates, you will also see a number of “questions” that voters must decide. With each question you will see two open arrows next to the words “Approve” and “Reject.”

**Important: Be sure to check both sides of the ballot. Some elected offices or questions may appear on the back of the ballot.**

You may get a “sample ballot” showing all of the elections and questions as they will appear on Election Day by visiting the Secretary of State’s website: [www.sos.ri.gov/vic](http://www.sos.ri.gov/vic). Or, you may obtain a sample ballot from your local board of canvassers. Sample ballots will be available approximately three weeks before a primary or election.

## What races can I expect to see on the November 2, 2010 Election ballot?

The first option on your ballot is the straight party option, which is discussed on page 12.

The names of the candidates for each federal and state race appear on the ballot with their party affiliation listed directly beneath their names. The federal and state races appear in the following order: Representative in Congress, Governor, Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, General Treasurer, State Senator and State Representative.

In most cities and towns, local races will appear next on the ballot. In some contests the names of the candidates appear on the ballot along with their party affiliation label. Some contests in cities and towns are labeled as “non-partisan” or “without party marks or designation.” In those cases, the candidate's party affiliation will not appear on the ballot.

Your local ballot may also include races where more than one individual is to be elected. In those cases you will see instructions such as “Vote for any 2,” indicating that the voter may vote for up to 2 candidates in that race, or “Vote for any 3,” indicating that the voter may vote for up to 3 candidates in that race, and so forth.

The state constitutional amendments and questions, as applicable, are then listed on the ballot. In most cases, the questions start in the first column on the backside of the ballot. Where applicable, local questions follow the state constitutional amendments and questions and are printed on a yellow background. In some cases, questions will not fit on the backside of the ballot and you will be issued an additional ballot.

### **How do I vote for a candidate whose name is on the ballot?**

Complete the arrow   pointing to your choice with a single bold line, like this:  .







### **What if the candidate I want to vote for does not appear on the ballot?**

A vote for someone not shown on the printed ballot is called a “write-in.” (The write-in option cannot be used during primary elections.)

You must do two things to cast a “write-in” vote.

1. Print the name of the person on the blank line labeled “write-in,” and
2. Complete the arrow pointing to the person's name next to the write-in line.

Here's what a completed write-in vote should look like:

MAYOR Four Year Term Vote for 1	
Maria NUNEZ DEMOCRAT	 
Albert SMITH Independent	 
Write In	 
Victor Rodriguez	

NOTE: Do not write in the names of candidates whose names already appear on your ballot as candidates for that race.

**How do I vote for all the candidates of a single party (a “straight party” vote)?**

To cast a vote for all candidates of a single party in the general election, complete the arrow pointing to the party of your choice in the “straight party” section of the ballot.

This is called a “straight party” vote and is counted the same as if you had separately completed the arrows next to every candidate from that party on the entire ballot.

If you cast a straight party vote and also vote separately for an individual candidate or candidates for a certain office on the ballot, only the individual candidate or candidates that you voted for separately will be counted for that office. The straight party vote will not be counted for that office, but it will still apply for all the offices that you do not separately complete.

**Reminder about “multiple vote” races and casting straight party votes.**

Races for some local offices allow you to vote for two or more candidates. If you cast a separate vote for an individual candidate in a “multiple vote” race, your “straight party vote” will **not** apply to any candidate in **that** race. If you intend to vote for more than one candidate in a multiple-vote race, be sure you complete the arrows next to every candidate you wish to vote for in that race.



## **Don't forget "non-partisan" races and questions.**

Some elected offices and all questions are "non-partisan." That means that political parties do not run candidates or take positions on those races. Your straight party vote does not apply to non-partisan races or questions. You must vote for the non-partisan races or questions individually or your ballot will be recorded as a "no vote" on those items.

## **Be sure to check both sides of your ballot. Candidates and questions are often on the back side of the ballot.**

After marking and checking both sides of your ballot, you will place it in the secrecy sleeve and proceed to the voting equipment. You will remove your ballot from the secrecy sleeve and insert your ballot into the voting equipment. Place the empty secrecy sleeve on top of the voting equipment.

## **What happens if I make a mistake when marking my ballot?**

You will be given a new ballot to start over. If you make a mistake, do not erase or cross out on the ballot and try to insert it in the voting equipment. Instead, bring your ballot to the clerk. The clerk will ask you to complete several additional arrows on the ballot. Your old ballot is then completely voided (and sealed to protect the privacy of your intended votes). The clerk will then give you a new ballot and direct you to a booth to complete it.

## **What happens if I vote for too many candidates?**

The voting equipment is programmed to return a ballot if you vote for more candidates than allowed by law. The polling place official will ask you to remove the ballot and take it to the clerk. The clerk will ask you to complete several additional arrows on the ballot. Your old ballot is then completely voided and sealed for your voting privacy. You will be given a new ballot and directed to a voting booth to complete it.

## **Can someone help me if I have any questions on marking my ballot?**

The clerk will explain how to mark it if you ask. The cover of the secrecy sleeve and the inside wall of the voting booth will also contain instructions on how to mark a ballot.

You may also take this booklet or any other materials into the booth to assist you in voting.

You can request the assistance of a bi-partisan pair of supervisors. Federal and state law allows voters who are blind, disabled or unable to read or write to bring a person of their choice into the booth. The warden will have an affidavit that must be completed.

### **What is a “primary” election and how is it different from a “general” election?**

Primaries are elections held by political parties, usually in the month of September, to decide who will represent that party in the later general election, which takes place in November of election years. The primary allows eligible voters to decide which party candidate shall represent them in the general election. The winner of the primary election must still compete with other candidates in the following general election.

### **What must I do in order to vote in a primary?**

To vote in a primary, you must be a registered voter.

If your voter registration record indicates that you are unaffiliated you may choose in which primary you wish to vote. As soon as you vote in a primary, you are automatically affiliated with that party. If you wish to preserve your ability to vote in any other primary in the future, request a “disaffiliation” form from poll officials and fill it out on the spot to return to your unaffiliated status in 90 days.

If you are affiliated with any political party, you may not vote in another party’s primary.

### **How do I establish and change my party affiliation?**

You have the option of “affiliating” with any recognized political party or not affiliating with any party (registering “unaffiliated”) at the time you register to vote.

You may change your recorded affiliation to a different party or to unaffiliated at any time by visiting your board of canvassers or by completing a RI Voter Registration form indicating your party preference.

However, if you want to change your party affiliation so that you

can vote in another party's primary, the change must be filed at least 90 days before the primary. The deadline for disaffiliation for the 2010 primary on September 14 was June 16.

### **What special accommodations have been made for elderly, disabled and visually impaired voters?**

- › In accordance with the federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) and state law, the State has purchased an accessible voting unit (AutoMark) for every polling place in Rhode Island. The AutoMark will be available at each polling place for every primary or election conducted under Rhode Island General Laws, Title 17. All registered voters are automatically entitled to use the accessible voting equipment located at each polling place – no special applications are required.

When the registered voter arrives at the polling place, the voter will proceed to the check-in table and will identify himself/herself. Voter will tell supervisors at the table that the voter wants to use the AutoMark to assist in casting his/her ballot. Voter will be given a ballot and a secrecy sleeve and directed to the AutoMark unit. Voter will cast votes on ballot through the use of this accessible marking device and will then deposit his/her ballot into the tabulation device at the polling place. Demonstrations will be conducted throughout the state prior to the September Primary and the November Election.

- › Each polling place will have at least one handicapped-accessible voting booth designated for priority use by voters over 65 years of age or disabled. Other voters may use the voting booth only when there are no disabled voters or voters over the age of 65 waiting to vote.
- › Each polling place will be equipped with a sheet magnifier to assist a voter who is visually impaired.

### **What can I do if my polling place is not accessible to voters with disabilities?**

If you are a voter with a disability and the polling location where you are assigned to vote is inaccessible to you, you can notify the local board of canvassers at least 5 days in advance and they will arrange an alternate means to allow you to cast your vote. Addresses and telephone numbers for local boards of canvassers are listed on page 24.

# Voting by Mail Ballot

If you are physically unable to visit the polling place, you may request a mail ballot. Note that you must file an application for a mail ballot at least three weeks before the election. See “Am I eligible to vote by mail ballot?” on the next page.

## Am I eligible to vote by mail ballot?

To cast a mail ballot, you must be unable to vote in person for one of these reasons:

1. You are absent from the state.
2. You are a student at a college or university within Rhode Island.
3. You are physically unable to vote at a polling place because of illness or physical or mental disability.
4. Your religion prohibits it.
5. You are confined to a nursing home or hospital.
6. You are incarcerated (but not convicted of a felony).
7. You are away on military service.
8. You are a state or local election official.

## How do I apply for a mail ballot?

Obtain an application from your local board of canvassers, Board of Elections, Office of the Secretary of State or online at [www.sos.ri.gov](http://www.sos.ri.gov). Unless you are on military service, you will need to have your application notarized. Your application must be received at least 21 days before the election.

### Mail ballot application deadlines:

For the September 14, 2010 Primary: August 24, 2010.

For the November 2, 2010 Election: October 12, 2010.

If you are permanently disabled, you may arrange to have mail ballot applications (not the actual ballots) mailed to you automatically. Contact your local board of canvassers.

## How do I apply for a Braille or tactile mail ballot?

Voters who are blind, visually impaired or disabled may apply for a Braille or tactile mail ballot. In order to apply for a Braille or

tactile mail ballot, you must be a registered voter in Rhode Island and must apply in writing for a special Braille or tactile mail ballot. The application must be filed with the local board of canvassers at least 45 days before the date of the election for which you are requesting a mail ballot. The request will be valid for mail ballots for all elections held during the calendar year in which the request was received and in which you are eligible to participate. Note: you must also fill out a mail ballot application for each primary or election in addition to the application for a Braille or tactile mail ballot.

The deadline to apply for a Braille or tactile mail ballot for the September 14, 2010 Primary is August 2, 2010; the deadline for the November 2, 2010 Election is September 20, 2010.

You can use the form prepared by the Office of the Secretary of State, or you can apply in writing without using the form as long as the communication includes the following information:

- › Your name and registered address.
- › Daytime telephone number.
- › Indication of whether this request is for the entire calendar year or only for the next upcoming election.
- › Your party affiliation if the request is also for a primary.
- › Indicate the special ballot format desired: Braille Grade I, Braille Grade II or tactile.
- › Your signature on the form.

### **What if I have an emergency and I can't vote in person?**

If emergency circumstances arise after the regular mail ballot application deadline, you may apply for an emergency mail ballot at your local board of canvassers. Emergency mail ballot applications are available and may be submitted until 4 p.m. on the day before the primary or election. You may need to support your claim of medical emergency with a physician or practitioner's certificate.

Your emergency mail ballot must be received by the Board of Elections, 50 Branch Avenue, Providence, RI 02904 no later than 9 p.m. the day of the primary or on Election Day.

## **What are my rights as a voter?**

Your right to vote freely is the cornerstone of citizenship. You have the right to...

- › **Keep who you vote for a secret**

Your voter registration and some other voting documents, like a mail ballot application, are public records. But, no one, not even election officials, can find out who you voted for once your ballot is accepted.

- › **Cast a provisional ballot if you are registered to vote, even if your name does not appear on the voter list.**

You have the right to request a provisional ballot if you are a qualified registered voter and your name cannot be found on the voter list when you arrive at your designated polling place on Election Day.

- › **Vote by mail ballot if you cannot vote in person.**

To find out if you qualify to vote by mail ballot or to request a mail ballot application, please visit the Secretary of State's website at [www.sos.ri.gov](http://www.sos.ri.gov) or contact us at 401-222-2340. You may also contact your local board of canvassers or Board of Elections.

- › **Have assistance in the voting booth.**

You can request the assistance of a bi-partisan pair of supervisors. Federal and state law allows voters who are blind, disabled or unable to read or write to bring a person of their choice into the booth. The warden will have an affidavit that must be completed.

## **What violates state election law?**

Any attempt to interfere with your right to vote or unduly influence your vote is a crime. It is a crime to try to make you vote in a certain way by making threats or offering gifts. It is also against the law to force you to reveal your vote once made. Contact your local board of canvassers if anyone tries to interfere with your voting rights.

It is also against the law for you to make any false statements on your voter registration or ballot application. Voting or trying to vote when you are not eligible, or helping another person to vote fraudulently are crimes punishable by law.

# Other Ways to Participate in Elections

## How can I help other people register to vote?

You can help others register to vote by hosting a voter registration drive.

You may pick up voter registration forms at the Board of Elections and return the completed forms to the same office:

Board of Elections  
50 Branch Avenue  
Providence, RI 02904

Or, call the Secretary of State's Elections Division at 401-222-2340 for assistance in organizing a voter registration event. You may also visit our website at [www.sos.ri.gov](http://www.sos.ri.gov) to obtain free educational materials.

## What are some other ways I can exercise my rights as a citizen?

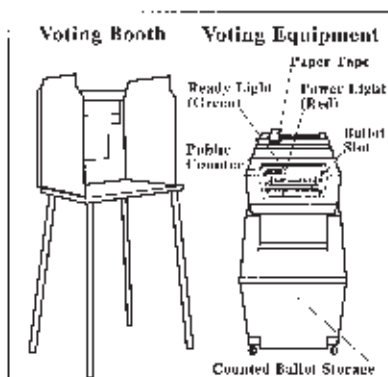
Elections and voting are just two parts of the democratic process. You also have the right to participate in election campaigns and in the day-to-day decisions of government between elections.

### Political activism

You have the right to speak out for causes you believe in and work for the political candidates you prefer. You can:

- › Belong to a political party or political action committee
- › Belong to a cause-related group
- › Attend a political rally.

# Voting Equipment

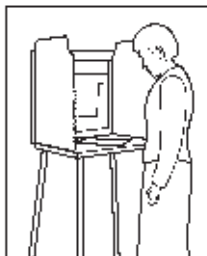


## Steps to Voting

- 1) Receive ballot and secrecy sleeve from the clerk.**



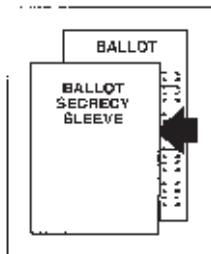
- 2) Go to the voting booth to mark your ballot in private.**



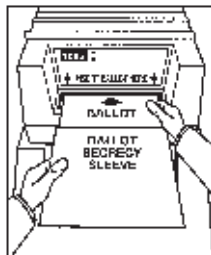
- 3) Mark your ballot by completing the arrow pointing to the candidate(s) for whom you wish to vote.**



- 4) Insert your ballot into the secrecy sleeve and go to the voting equipment.**



- 5) Remove ballot from secrecy sleeve and insert your ballot in the voting equipment.**



### NOTE

If you make a mistake, do not erase or cross out on the ballot. Bring the ballot to the clerk. In order to protect the secrecy of your intended vote, the clerk will ask you to complete several additional arrows on the ballot. The clerk will then take a new ballot.

**Voting is complete.**

*Congratulations! you have just voted.*

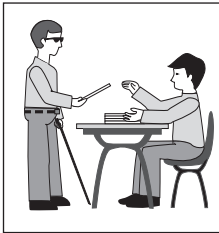


# AutoMark Voting Equipment

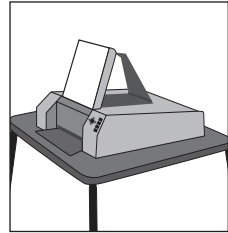


## Steps to Voting

**1. Receive ballot and secrecy sleeve from the clerk.**



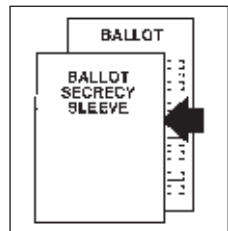
**3. Mark your ballot by placing it into the AutoMark unit. Follow audio instructions and make selections by using the keypad or touchscreen.**



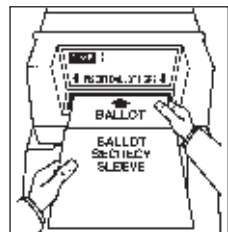
**2. Go to the AutoMark booth to mark your ballot in private.**



**4. Insert your ballot into secrecy sleeve and go to the voting equipment.**



**5. Remove ballot from secrecy sleeve and insert your ballot in the voting equipment.**



***Congratulations! you have just voted.***

# Sample of the Front of Ballot\*

\* this sample ballot is for illustrative purposes only. It does not reflect the actual races and candidates that will be on your ballot in 2010.

Practical 10 1100

Congressional District 1

Representative District 1

Voting District 1

Senate District 10


1

OFFICIAL ELECTION BALLOT

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

TOWN OF BARRINGTON

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2000



1

1. To vote:  
Complete the arrow(s) pointing to your choice(s) with a single bold line, like this


2. To vote for a write-in candidate not on the ballot:  
Print the name on the line provided for the office and complete the arrow pointing to your write-in choice like this

3. To read a straight party vote:

and only the individual candidate or candidates voted for will be counted for that office.

STRAIGHT PARTY To vote "Straight Party" candidates for office printing is the party of your choice.	SENATOR IN CONGRESS Six Year Term Vote for 1	MODERATOR Two Year Term Vote for 1
COX MOORE	Lincoln D. CHAFFEE REPUBLICAN	Allen C. BLUPPEN REPUBLICAN
REPUBLICAN	Robert A. WEINGART DEMOCRAT	Write In
DEMOCRAT	Christopher YOUNG REPUBLICAN	TOWN COUNCIL Four Year Term Vote for any 3
REFORM	Kenneth P. PROULX Independent	Charles B. BRILE REPUBLICAN
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS FOR:	REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS DISTRICT 1 Six Year Term Vote for 1	Anthony P. ARCO DEMOCRAT
President Vote President George W. BUSH Republican	Stephen CASHIN REPUBLICAN	Anthony L. ESPASQUE REPUBLICAN
Vice President Vote Vice President Joe LEBRON DEMOCRAT	Patrick J. KENNEDY DEMOCRAT	Timothy J. MORGAN DEMOCRAT
President Vote President Pat BUCHANAN REPUBLICAN	Write In	Mark J. GILLESPIE REPUBLICAN
Vice President Vote Vice President Bob FOSTER REPUBLICAN	SENATOR IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 10 Four Year Term Vote for 1	Write In
President Vote President John KASSEL New State Democrat National Party	David E. BATES REPUBLICAN	SCHOOL COMMITTEE Four Year Term Vote for any 3
Vice President Vote Vice President Elaine MOOREHEAD Glenn LA BAY National Party	Write In	Patricia A. GABA REPUBLICAN
President Vote President Harry BROWN ANT OUNER Democratic Party	REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 10 Four Year Term Vote for 1	Pamela L. FIDELL REPUBLICAN
Vice President Vote Vice President Ralph NADIR Wilmore LaDINE Democratic Party	John A. Savage REPUBLICAN	Robert E. HENRY REPUBLICAN
President Vote President David McFEE Mary Col HOLLS Republican Party	Mary A. GABRIANO DEMOCRAT	Emmanuel P. LAURA REPUBLICAN
Vice President Vote Vice President James HARRIS Margaret TROVE Republican Party	Write In	Write In
President Vote President Howard PHILLIPS J. Curtis FRASER Republican Party	Write In	Write In
Write In		

VOTE BOTH FRONT AND  
BACK OF BALLOT



# Sample of the Back of Ballot\*

\* this sample ballot is for illustrative purposes only. It does not reflect the actual races and candidates that will be on your ballot in 2010.

STATE QUESTIONS	STATE QUESTIONS
<p><b>1. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BONDS</b> \$4,000,000 (CHAPTER 15 - PUBLIC LAWS 200)</p> <p>Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to issue general obligation bonds and refunding bonds in an amount not to exceed \$4,000,000 for environmental and recreational purposes, specifically, the acquisition of open space for preservation and ground water protection and the development of public recreational facilities.</p>	<p><b>5. HERITAGE HARBOR MUSEUM BONDS</b> \$25,000,000 (CHAPTER 15 - PUBLIC LAWS 200)</p> <p>Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to issue general obligation bonds and refunding bonds in an amount not to exceed \$25,000,000 for the creation, design, construction, furnishing and equipping of the Heritage Harbor Museum.</p>
Question 1 <b>APPROVE</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Question 5 <b>APPROVE</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Question 1 <b>REJECT</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Question 5 <b>REJECT</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>2. RHODE ISLAND CLEAN WATER FINANCE AGENCY - WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT BONDS</b> \$6,500,000 (CHAPTER 15 - PUBLIC LAWS 200)</p> <p>Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to issue general obligation bonds and refunding bonds in an amount not to exceed \$6,500,000 to provide funding to the Rhode Island Clean Water Finance Agency which will be developed with federal and state capital assistance if conditions are: a) substantial and/or persistent nonpoint-source pollution, groundwater and/or non-point-source pollution for the construction, repair, upgrading and upgrading of water pollution treatment projects including, but not limited to, wastewater treatment facilities, nutrient reduction systems, combined sewer overflow systems, restoration of aquatic habitats, and sediment treatment and removal; b) substantial threat to the State's commonly water systems, both publicly and privately owned, and/or c) non-point-source water systems for drinking water projects.</p>	<p><b>6. QUESTION PROPOSED BY THE GOVERNOR</b> (RHOIS 15-200 PUBLIC LAWS; SECTION 17-1-2)</p> <p><b>CO-EDUC. BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT</b> (ADVISORY REFERENCE)</p> <p>Shall a Constitutional Convention be called to revise the existing Rhode Island government structure (the executive, legislative, executive, executive, and judicial branches) and to the government established by the Constitution and the Rhode Island Constitution and by the Constitution shall be the state?</p>
Question 2 <b>APPROVE</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Question 6 <b>APPROVE</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Question 2 <b>REJECT</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Question 6 <b>REJECT</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>3. TRANSPORTATION BONDS</b> \$62,500,000 (CHAPTER 15 - PUBLIC LAWS 200)</p> <p>Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to issue general obligation bonds and refunding bonds in an amount not to exceed \$62,500,000 to match federal funds and bond proceeds to the State's highway, mass transit and to provide loans for the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority.</p>	
Question 3 <b>APPROVE</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
Question 3 <b>REJECT</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
<p><b>4. HIGHER EDUCATION BONDS</b> \$9,500,000 (CHAPTER 15 - PUBLIC LAWS 200)</p> <p>Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to issue general obligation bonds and refunding bonds in an amount not to exceed \$9,500,000 to fund improvements to the University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College and the Community College of Rhode Island.</p>	
Question 4 <b>APPROVE</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
Question 4 <b>REJECT</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	

NOTE BOTH FRONT AND BACK OF BALLOT

TOWN OF BARRINGTON

# Contact Information for Local Boards of Canvassers

›Barrington Town Hall, 283 County Rd.	247-1900
›Bristol Town Hall, 10 Court St.	253-7000
›Burrillville Town Hall, 105 Harrisville Main St., Harrisville	568-4300
›Central Falls City Hall, 580 Broad St.	727-7450
›Charlestown Town Hall, 4540 South County Trl.	364-1200
›Coventry Town Hall, 1670 Flat River Rd.	822-9150
›Cranston City Hall, 869 Park Ave.	780-3126
›Cumberland Town Hall, 45 Broad St.	728-2400
›East Greenwich Town Hall, 125 Main St.	886-8603
›East Providence City Hall, 145 Taunton Ave.	435-7502
›Exeter Town Hall, 675 Ten Rod Rd.	294-2287
›Foster Town Hall, 181 Howard Hill Rd.	392-9200
›Glocester Town Hall, 1145 Putnam Pike	568-6206
›Hopkinton Town Hall, 1 Town House Rd.	377-7777
›Jamestown Town Hall, 93 Narragansett Ave.	423-9804
›Johnston Town Hall, 1385 Hartford Ave.	553-8856
›Lincoln Town Hall, 100 Old River Rd.	333-1140
›Little Compton Town Hall, 40 Commons	635-4400
›Middletown Town Hall, 350 East Main Rd.	849-5540
›Narragansett Town Hall, 25 Fifth Ave.	782-0625
›Newport City Hall, 43 Broadway	845-5384
›New Shoreham Town Hall, 16 Old Town Rd., P.O. Box 220	466-3200
›North Kingstown Town Hall, 80 Boston Neck Rd.	294-3331
›North Providence Town Hall, 2000 Smith St.	232-0900
›North Smithfield Town Hall, 575 Smithfield Rd.	767-2200
›Pawtucket City Hall, 137 Roosevelt Ave.	722-1637
›Portsmouth Town Hall, 2200 East Main Rd.	683-3157
›Providence City Hall, 25 Dorrance St.	421-0495
›Richmond Town Hall, 5 Richmond Townhouse Rd.	539-9000
›Scituate Town Hall, 195 Danielson Pike, North Scituate	647-7466
›Smithfield Town Hall, 64 Farnum Pike, Esmond	233-1000
›South Kingstown Town Hall, 180 High St., Wakefield	789-9331
›Tiverton Town Hall, 343 Highland Rd.	625-6704
›Warren Town Hall, 514 Main St.	245-7340
›Warwick City Hall, 3275 Post Rd.	738-2000
›West Greenwich Town Hall, 280 Victory Hwy.	392-3800
›West Warwick Town Hall, 1170 Main St.	822-9201
›Westerly Town Hall, 45 Broad St.	348-2503
›Woonsocket City Hall, 169 Main St.	767-9224

# Schedules for Polling Places for Primary and Election Day

City Town	Primary Schedule	Election Day Schedule
Barrington	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Bristol	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Burrillville	9 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Central Falls	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Charlestown	9 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Coventry	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Cranston	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Cumberland	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
East Greenwich	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
East Providence	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Exeter	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Foster	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Glocester	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Hopkinton	9 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Jamestown	8 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Johnston	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Lincoln	8 a.m. to 9 p.m.	8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Little Compton	9 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Middletown	8 a.m. to 9 p.m.	8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Narragansett	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Newport	8 a.m. to 9 p.m.	8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
New Shoreham	9 a.m. to 9 p.m.	9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
North Kingstown	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
North Providence	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
North Smithfield	8 a.m. to 9 p.m.	8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Pawtucket	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Portsmouth	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Providence	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Richmond	9 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Scituate	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Smithfield	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
South Kingstown	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Tiverton	8 a.m. to 9 p.m.	8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Warren	8 a.m. to 9 p.m.	8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Warwick	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
West Greenwich	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
West Warwick	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Westerly	9 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Woonsocket	8 a.m. to 9 p.m.	8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

# Contact Information for State Elections and Political Party Offices

› Office of the Secretary of State Elections Division 148 W. River St., Providence, RI 02904	222-2340
› Board of Elections 50 Branch Ave., Providence, RI 02904	222-2345
› Rhode Island Democratic Party 249 Roosevelt Ave., Suite 202, Pawtucket, RI 02861	721-9900
› Rhode Island Moderate Party P.O. Box 378, Barrington, RI 02806	533-3360
› Rhode Island Republican Party 3351 Post Road, Warwick, RI 02886	732-8282

# Information Available on the Secretary of State's Website

The following information concerning the 2010 election cycle may be found on the Secretary of State's website at:

[www.sos.ri.gov/elections](http://www.sos.ri.gov/elections)

- › 2010 Election Calendar
- › 2010 How to Run for Office Guide
- › 2010 How to Register and Vote Guide
- › Declaration of Candidacy Form
- › Political Party Endorsement Form
- › Qualified Federal and State Candidates: Starting June 29, 2010, daily updates of federal and state candidates who filed and/or qualified for ballot placement
- › Qualified Local Candidates: Starting June 29, 2010, daily updates of local candidates who filed and/or qualified for ballot placement
- › Sample Ballots - Available August 2010
- › Find your polling place
- › Mail Ballot Applications
- › Voter Referenda Handbook - Available September 2010